

National Progress Report by Georgia

Nuclear Security Summit, Seoul, South Korea
26-27 March, 2012.

Global Nuclear Security Architecture

1. Georgia supports existing global nuclear security architecture through implementing its components on the national level, providing sufficient commitments to the international legal instruments. It is important that Georgia, a party of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) since 2007, is extending its willingness to fully become a party of this international legal document. The ratification of the 2005 Amendment to Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material is on the final stage and anticipated to be implemented in coming weeks. Georgia is a party of the Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) since 2010.
2. Georgia fully implements the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 on prevention of non-state actors from obtaining weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related materials. Considering that this resolution serves as a vital component of the international community's instrument in combating WMD proliferation, Georgia welcomes the extension of its mandate.
3. Georgia actively participates in Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) and Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. During the GICNT mid-year meeting 2012, Georgia became a member of the working group on Developing a Nuclear Detection Architecture Series.

Cooperation with the IAEA

1. Georgia has intensive and successful cooperation with the IAEA since becoming a Member State in 1996. Georgia receives assistance in various fields of peaceful use of nuclear energy and contributes to several technical meetings by providing expertise on drafting the IAEA security series related documents.
2. Several assistance missions IAEA have been fulfilled in Georgia. Namely, IPPAS (International Physical Protection Advisory Service), RaSSIA (Radiation Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources Appraisal), the International SSAC (State System of Accounting and Control) Advisory Service, and EPREV (Emergency Preparedness Review) Service which is fulfilled in 2011.
3. Georgia continues cooperation with the IAEA in implementing the National Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) which works as a roadmap to achieve the best level of state nuclear security.

Radioactive Sources and Nuclear Material

1. Georgia expressed its full support to the principles of the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its supplementary document on the IAEA Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources in the formal letter to the IAEA Director General. These principles will be reflected in the nuclear security related documents of Georgia to be adopted in the process of developing the national legal basis.
2. Georgia established the National Register (RASOD – Radiation Source Database) of radioactive sources in cooperation with the US NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission).

Nuclear Security and Safety

1. Georgia made significant efforts aimed at improving its nuclear Safety and Security. Progress is achieved at the institutional as well as infrastructural level. The Law on Nuclear and Radiation Safety (new draft version) which is in line with the international legal documents and recommendations of partner states is on very final stage of ratification. Various regulations on Nuclear Safety and Security will be finalized, adopted, and fully enforced in the nearest future.
2. Georgia operates state-of-art SLD (Second Line Defense) system (state border nuclear and radiation security system) leaving nearly zero chance to nuclear smugglers. The system is developed with assistance and in cooperation with the US Government.
3. Georgia cooperates with the US Department of Energy through GTRI (Global Threat Reduction Initiative) in enhancing the security level and physical protection infrastructure for high activity radiation sources.
4. US Government NSOI (Nuclear Smuggling Outreach Initiative) plays significant role in capacity building of the relevant Georgian agencies.
5. Georgia collaborates with the US Department of State EXBS (Export Control and Border Security) program and receives assistance in human resources development and capacity building in this sphere.
6. Georgia is an active user of the IAEA Nuclear Security Information Portal, since it is an important new resource developed by the IAEA to support nuclear security worldwide.

Combating Illicit Trafficking

1. Georgia actively cooperates with the IAEA ITDB (Illicit Trafficking Data Base) office by providing relevant information. Cooperation with this international mechanism providing information on Global illicit trafficking helps Georgian authorities to more effectively analyze worldwide cases which is important in terms of prevention.
2. Georgia, since 2005 actively participates in ITWG (International Technical Working Group) activities aimed at combating illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive material.
3. Georgia has reached a political agreement with European Union on the establishment of the Regional Secretariat in Tbilisi within the framework of the Chemical Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) 'Centers of Excellence' (CoE) Initiative

Nuclear Forensics

1. Georgia's agreement with EURATOM on Joint Analysis of nuclear material enables international expertise of nuclear material seized using the resources of EU Joint Research Centre at the Institute of Trans-uranium Elements. Besides, it provides access to the nuclear material libraries.
2. Georgia actively participates in the IAEA technical meetings and consultations on nuclear forensics regulations and guides. Last activities were focused on the review of the IAEA Nuclear Forensics Support document.
3. Georgian specialists, participating in the INFL (International Nuclear Forensics Laboratories) activities since 2005, continuing such activities since Washington Nuclear Summit as well.

Nuclear Security Culture

1. Georgia actively participates in bilateral and multilateral programs and projects supporting the development of HR. Georgia conducted several national trainings and workshops on nuclear security and physical protection, DBT (Design Based Threat), Defense in Depth principles etc.

International Cooperation

1. Georgian stakeholders continue active cooperation with international community. Joint work with our partners has significantly increased our technical and institutional capabilities to prevent and detect violations at early stages. As an example, a) the radioactive waste temporary storage facility starting the operation in 2007; b) provision of modern radiation detection equipment and relevant training to different Governmental bodies; c) establishing of the regional centre in Tbilisi within the frame of COE; d) signing agreement between EURATOM and the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (regulatory authority) of Georgia on Nuclear Material Joint Analysis; e) signing the Implementing Agreement between the US Department of Energy and the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of Georgia on enhancing the security and Physical Protection of high activity radiation sources; and f) signing of Joint Document of the Delegations of US and Georgia on enhancing Georgia's capabilities to combat illicit nuclear trafficking etc.